

ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA.

THURSDAY, MAY 20.

THE CURRENCY QUESTION. -The Richmond Whig in an article on the currency question in the next Congress thinks that the sentiment of the South of the West, as expressed by their representatives, will, be found very strong on the side on he wants and wishes of the people, in opposition to the plans and purposes of the men who hold the money power and are seeking to increase it and perpetuate it. And while it attributes the depressing dulpess in trade, discouragement of energy, want of that confidence which gives boldness to business, progress to labor, and prosperity to the people, to the domestic policy of the Government, yes it thinks the absence of a full, free-flowing currency has also had a most damaging influence in bringing about this state of things so productive of dissatisfaction among all classes of men in all the departments of labor. It says: "If things shall go on in this way as they 'are going, for a few years longer, we shall have general wreck and ruin throughout the Union. a perfect Dead sea of business of all sorts, and a financial system so completely under the control of the money mammoths of Wall street and its dependencies in the North, that they will be the dictators of trade and the masters of the multitudes toiling under their tyranny. But it concludes: "We must say, however with all our ardor in the cause, that if the currency question would so divide the Democratic-Conservative party of the North as to endanger its success in the approaching Presidential election, we should be in favor of allowing it to rest until after the battle, just as we are in fa vor of no agitation of the question of our State debt before the people, lest it may produce dis sension in our own Virginia party in the State.'

THE MECKLENBURG CENTENNIAL. - The celebration of the centennial anniversary of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence commenced in Charlotte, North Carolina, in Independence Square, the site of the old Court House in which the Convention sat, yesterday. A flag-pole, 115 feet high, crowned by a hornets' nest, had been raised on the spot, and the 38 guns from the Richmond Howitzers and an a lunatic. artillery company from Raleigh. When the national flag was hoisted it went up with a state cession of cheers. The crowd formed in a circle around the flagstaff, the inner line composed of uniformed firemen. Col. William Johnston, mayor of Charlotte, and Hon. Curtis H. Brogden, Governor of North Carolina, occupied seats on an extemporized platform. Colonel Johnston, in a few patriotic sentences alluding to the centennial, introduced the Governor, who addressed the assemblage, for about fifteen minutes, and was repeatedly interrupted with cheers. He said the principles of liberty enunciated by the fathers of the revolution one hundred years ago, on the spot upon which he stood, would live throughout all time. Last night a great many dwellings and other houses were illuminated with gas, candles and Chinese lanterns, while transparencies, with mottoes commemorating the event, were numerous. The centennial flagstaff was hung with strings of lanterns, stretching from the centre to the four corners of the square. Very great enthusiasm prevailed throughout Charlotte, and the illumination was general and really mag-

KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS. - The parade of the Knights of Pythias in Washington yesterday was a beautiful and imposing spectacle. Several thousands of Knights adorned with chaste and attractive regalia, appeared in line, bearing beautiful banners, adorned with the various devices of the Order, and accompanied by numerous bands, discoursing exquisite music, to which the Knights kept perfect time. The parade was in every sense creditable to the Order. Flags were floated from all the flagstaffs of the city, and many of the public houses were decorated with evergreens, flowers, flags and hangings, especially the Pythian colors. After being reviewed by the members of the Supreme Lodge of the World, which is composed of sixty eight members, who were draws up in line in front of the National Hotel, the procession passed up the avenue to the Executive Mansion, where they were reviewed by President Grant and Secretary Belknap, who stood upon the portico with uplifted hats. The Order now embraces a membership of nearly one hundred thousand, organized in 1,346 subordinate and thir y four Grand Lodges.

A NEW STORY BY WILKIE COLLINS .- In "The Dead Secret" and "The Moonstone," Wilkie Collins evinced a tendency towards a belief in fatalism which lent to those creations of fiction an interest quite independent of the stories. In "Alicis Warlock," his latest effort. this fatalistic element is even more strongly asserted-the mystical presentiment of "the warning" being wrought out with effect. The gradations of the stery towards its climax are depicted with a master hand, and with such ingenuity that the reader's interest is rivetted until the end of the closing page, upon the strange and exciting story of the terrible but fascinating heroine, and the fate of her doomed but devoted lover. "Alicia Warlock" is published exclusively by William F. Gill & Co., Boston.

We have received from the publishers Scribner's Magazine for June. Contents: In the Latin Quarter; First Born; The Mysterious Island; The Story of Sevenoaks; Ephphatha; Beds and Tables, Stools and Candlesticks: A Visit to Benares; My Open Polar Sea; A Farmer's Vacation; Some Old Letters; The Song Mapleton; The Power of Prayer; Topics of the Time; Home and Society; The World's Work. Scribner's is one of the very best magazines published in this country.

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THE STATE DEBT AND TAXES.-The Charlottesville Jeffersonian states the case plainly but strongly in the following article:

"The poor men of the country pay but a very

small amount on account of the State taxes which go to pay the general expenses of the State and the interest on the debt. A man worth one hundred dollars pays only fifty cents, and so on in the same ratio according to what he is worth, and one who owns no property pays nothing. Who, then, is relieved from taxation by repudiation? Not the man of no property or of small property, but the man who holds a large estate. Upon whom does taxation weigh most heavily? Upon him who owns large property which he cannot manage profitably. Much of the cry of the burden of the taxes we have been paying being so great as to justify repudiation is the wail of some large propertyholders, by which they seek to beguile the really poor man into the belief that he will get some great benefit by repudiation, when in truth he will get nothing but his share of the disgrace and of the evils of demoralization and corruptions of society that will follow in the train. In order to relieve himself of the annual payment of lifty cents or one dollar, the honest poor of the land are urged to vote in favor of refusing to pay the just debts of the State, and thereby disgrace Virginia and set an example to justify men in cheating them out of their just dues. For if the State defrauds her creditor, holding on to the railroads, canais and other public improvements which are built with the borrowed money that created the debt, why may not every man cheat his neighbor out of the wages for his abor, the price for his horse, his bed, or threshing machine? When this state of things is brought about, the poor men, who have but little power and influence and no means to spare for law suits, will suffer beyond calculation from the oppression and the dishonesty of unscrupulous men of property, whose number will be largely increased by the contaminating example

Mai. Wm. Allan, of Curl's Neck, on James river, died yesterday very suddenly, it is supposed, of appoplexy. Prior to the war Major Allan was perhaps one of our wealthiest native Virginians-owning some eighteen hundred slaves, and nearly forty thousand acres of the best eastern Virginia land, including the famous Jamestown Island, Curl's Neck, Claremont, etc. He had his own railroads and engines on his places and sailed a splendidly appointed vatcht manued by his own people. The fortunes of war had very much impaired his possessions and save some land we presume Major Allan died without estate.

Mrs. Lincoln the wife of President Lincoln has been sent to the Illinois State Asylum for the Insane at Batavia, on the petition of her son Robert, who, after long forbearance, was at last obliged to perform the most painful duty. The unfortunate mother was present in court when the order was passed, and reproached her son for appearing against her. Shortly after the assassination of her husband she showed unmistakable symptoms of mental aberration, American flag was hoisted, amidst a salute of but her friends hesitated to have her adjudged

The funeral of General John C. Breckin ridge took place at Lexington, Ky., yesterday. It was attended by an immense throug of people. The officers of the State, headed by Gov. Leslie, were present in a body, as were also Senators Stevenson and McCreery, and many other distinguished men. The funeral was conducted by the Knights Templar, of which Order General Breckinridge was a member. No such outpouring of the people had been witnessed since the death of Henry Clay.

A convention of colored people assembled in Nashville, Tennessoe, yesterday, to mature measures for emigration to some other State an impression prevailing among them that they can obtain free transportation to Kansas and forty acres of land, with a year's rations and a mule. It is suggested that perhaps this rumor has caused the reported disapearance of grasshoppers from that State.

Jeremiah Hamilton, a well.known colored broker and banker in Wall street, New York, died there yesterday, aged 62 years. He was said to be the richest colored man in the United States. being worth \$2,000,000. He was formerly a West Indian slaves, and leaves two educated and accomplished daughters. He once offered a large sum to any white men who would

Dispatches received in Philadelphia from the wheat growing counties of New York State show, it is stated, that the crop has been injured to such an extent by the late cold weather and wet spring, that the yield will prove not more than half an average.

A semi-official denial is given from Berlin to the statement in the Pall Mall Gazette that Prince Bismarck had sent out a circular dispatch complaining of the adoption of the French Army Cadres bill as dangerous to the peace of

The Boston Globe is afraid of a famine in that city when all the world comes to Bunker

## AGRICULTURAL.

POTATO BUG.-At the last meeting of the Woodlawn Farmers' Club the Colorado bug was reported as having begun its destructive work on the potato vines, and it was recommended to keep close watch upon the vines and on the first appearance of the eggs or slugs, knock them off into a tin pan or bucket and scald them with hot water. If too numerous to destroy in this way, then mix one pound of Paris green with twenty pounds of flour or plaster and sift on the vines while wet. It was urged that every one should destroy them as fast as they make their appearance, and thereby, by combined effort, keep

GRAPES.-It was feared that the grape crop of this county had been badly injured by the late cold snap, but we are glad to know that such is not the case. In the vineyard of Mr. Haberle the grapes are not injured, and the prospect for a good crop is promising. We have not heard from other vineyards, but presume they fare as well, as the chances are about equal.

[Chariottesville Jeff'n. FRUIT .- We have reason to hope that there will be more fruit of several kinds, such as apples, pears, plums, and cherries, than was supposed. There is, so far as we have examined, about half s crop on the trees, which will make the fruit better, though not so abundant.-[Charlottesville efferschian.

CABBOLIC SOAP AND POTATO BUGS. - A genleman has left at this office a specimen of carbolic soap, a strong lather made from which, he says, will effectually destroy the potato bug.

#### NEWS OF THE DAY

'To show the very age and body of the Times.'

A fire was raging yesterday in the woods near Port Jervis, N. Y. Several saw mills have been destroyed, together with a large amount of sawed and unsawed lumber. The damage done is said to be immense. Destructive fires are raging in the woods along the Lake Superior and Michigan railroad, near the North Pacific Junction. Over 1,300 cords of wood have been burned and several lumbering outfits destroyed.

In consequence of the pretty general violation by American shipmasters of the laws relative to the discharge of American seamen in foreign ports, and the difficulty of collecting extra wages for such discharges, and of dues for the transfer of American vessels to foreign flags, the Treasury Department will shortly adopt more effective measures for the enforcement of the laws in this respect.

The U. S. Commission, consisting of Scoretary Bristow, Postmaster General Jewell, and Supervising Architect Potter, appointed by Congress to visit Baltimore and inspect and select a site for the proposed postoffice building, performed that duty yesterday. They were properly received and entertained by the city authorities.

The husbands of the two women, Smith and Jackson, who were drowned at Zmesville, Ohio, on Sunday night, by the boat in which they were attempting to cross the river going over the dam, have been arrested on a charge of manslaughter. Both men were drunk at

One of the Indian prisoners now being taken to their Florida prison yesterday morning succeeded in getting hold of a knife, with which he stabled two soldiers and then himself while the train was at Madison Station, near Nashville. The soldiers were not much burt, and it is thought the Indian will recover.

Official dispatches have been received at Havana, from the interior, which state that the Government troops twice attacked a body of insurgents numbering six hundred men, commanded by Ruloff, and that nineteen insurgents were killed. The Government loss was five soldiers killed.

The convention of Catholic Union benevolent societies, in session at Cincinnati, yesterday adopted a new constitution, and passed resolutions denouncing Bismarck and his battle against the Church in Prussia, and expressing sympathy for the Pope.

The Spanish Government has declared the electoral period opened. During the prescribed time the press is free to discuss all questions except that of monarchy, and political meetings are permitted. The smallpox is reported to be raging in the Carlist camps.

A Swedish sailor returned to New York from sea a week ago, and finding his blackeved Susan married to another, wounded her severely yesterday with a pistol, and unsuccessfully attempted suicide.

New Orleans is evacuated. Seven companies of the twenty-second U.S. infantry have left that city for their former stations in the vicinity of Milwaukee and Detroit. And Sheridan is soon to be married.

A Madrid telegram says that in the decree ssued yesterday the Government avows its in- the San Bernardino country. A division was tention of doing justice to the Church, and now made, and Col. Hollister found himself gives a hopeful review of the military situation. the owner, in his own right, of about eight Sixty New York capitalists and bankers have

travelled since Monday one thousand miles through Missouri, Kansas and Indian Territory without seeing a single grasshopper.

Texas cattle have begun to arrive in Kansas, but the general drove will be about a month later than usual. The expected arrivals within the next thirty days amount to 50,000 head. Michael C. Kerr, member of Congress from Indiana, has returned to Washington from a prolonged visit to the South, and is entirely

restored to health. The next meeting of the German Catholic Benevolent Union is to be held in Philadelphia

on Pentecost Monday, 1876. A dam on the Upper Gull river, at Minden, Ontario, broke yesterday, flooding the village

and doing a great deal of damage. The coinage of the new twenty cent piece was commenced yesterday at Philadelphia.

# Episcopal Council.

Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette. RICHMOND, May 19. - The Eightieth Annual Council of the Protestant Episcopal Church, in Virginia, met this afternoon in the lecture room of St. Pauls Church. Before the meeting of the convention morning service was held in the same church at 11 o'clock. Rev. J. S. Hanckel, of Charlottesville, read the services, and Rev. R. H. McKim, of Alexandria, preached from 52 Isaiah, part of the 1st verse-"Awake,awake,put on thy strength, oh Zion," The sermon was an able and impressive one. and though quite long, was listened to with the greatest attention by the congregation -one of the largest that ever assembled in St. Pauls Church. After the sermon a collection was taken up for the benefit of the Dioscesan Missionary and Educational Societies of Virginia.

The Council was called to order by the President, Bishop Johns, at 2:45, and the secretary, Rev. T. G. Dashiel, of St. Marks Church, in this city, called the roll of the clerical delegates, and it was ascertained that there were eightyfive present. The President then appointed a committee consisting of Revs. William Norwood and F. F. Martin, Dr. D. C. Gordon and Messrs. John R. Bryan and A. T. Luidley a committee to examine the credentials of the

lay delegates. After a short retirement the committee returned and reported eighty-four delegates present, making the attendance of clerical and

lay delegates 169. On motion of Rev. Dr. Charles Minnigerode the rules of government of the last Council were adopted, and it was determined that the sessions be held from 9 until 2:30 p. m. with a recess at 11 a. m. for divine service. The Council then adjourned until to-morrow

A meeting of the Brotherhood of the Protestant Episcopal Church, in the Diocese of Virginia, was held this afternoon at 5 o'clock, in the lecture room of St. Pauls Church. The trustees submitted their annual report, which shows that the Brotherhood have made progress. The total number of members on the

roll is 792. Of these seventy-eight are clergy-

men, seven being life members.

Collections in consequence of the death of Right Rev. Bishop Payne have so far amounted to \$1,300, and the trustees think will approximate \$1,450. They make the following statement of collections: Collections on account of heirs of Rev. W. H. L. Temple, \$1,132 40; F. H. Boyden, \$1,263 85; F. H. Wingfield, DD., \$1,317.31; W. H. Pendleton, DD., \$1, 316.71; Wm. Sparrow, DD., \$1,388 66; And. Fisher, \$1,454.65; and estimated collections on account of Rt. Rev. Bishop Payne, \$1,450. They state that this has been accomplished in about one-third of the parishes, and that onehalf of the communicants have not been reached at all The average yearly payment of each

#### Wool Growing.

The following letter will be of interest to the farming community, as sheep culture is attracting no little attention, at this time, in Vir-

> RANCHO SAN JULIAN, SANTA BARBARA COUNTY, CAL.,

February 13, 1875.
To the editor of the National Republican: The Spaniards have an old proverb that calls the hoof of the sheep "the golden hoof," because they say, it brings wealth out of every spot of ground it touches. It would seem to be so in California, for her wool-producing interest has grown into overshadowing proportions within the comparatively short period of twenty years. From a few thousand sheep and a clip of a little over five thousand pounds in 1855, her flocks have increased in numbers to nearly ten millions of sheep, producing over thirty-nine million pounds of wool in 1874one fifth of the entire clip of the United States. This is by far the most rapid increase, the greatest progress ever made by an American State, and perhaps the greatest that can be shown by any country.

No mention, however brief, of California's resources can therefore be just to her if it omits the product of her flocks. Accordingly I shall give in this letter some facts showing now this great result has been achieved in so short a time from very small beginnings. This can best be done by detailing individual operations and successes of representative flock-masters.

The earlier and very remarkable career of Col. W. W. Hollister, the pioneer wool-grower of California, is already known to the country, for it was Col. Hollister who first began in California the raising of sheep for their wool. This was in the year 1853. He came to this State in 1852, leading a company of emigrants with a train. While at a place called Alviso, pear the head of San Francisco Bay, he noticed a band of some two thousand Mexican sheep feeding in the open plain, apparently untended. Approaching he saw that they were herded by two dogs, with no man in view. Struck by the novel sight, he sat down on the ground alone, watching the sheep for hours and thinking; and it was there that his clear brain worked out the problem which has done so much to make California's sheep-husbandry the colossal interest it is. "It dogs can de this," said the Colonel to himself, "what may not men do with sheep in a country like this, where grazing it perpetual, where no shelter is required, and where the natural increase is one hundred per cent annually?" Then and there his resolution was formed, his course decided, his plan conceived. It was to bring ten thousand fat wethers across the Plains and sell them in Cali fornia as mutton; for mutton-sheep brought \$10 a head here in those days. The breeding of sheep was no part of his original plan; but this was subsequently modified by circumstances. He rose up from the silent plain, and later in the year returned to Ohio, where, in conjunction with others, he bought several thousand sheep, including a few hundred American ewes. With these he started overland for California, adding to their number by purchase in the country passed through on the march west-

They arrived in this State in 1853, with about three thousand head, having sustained serious losses en route, chiefly in Utah and beyond. The big fat wethers fell by the way in large numbers, borne down by their own weight; the little ewes held out bravely, and most of them pulled through. The Colonel and his companions brought their flocks in by way of hundred sheep. The outlook for the young master was not encouraging. He was without other available means, (for he had fifteen thousand dollars tied up in cattle, which he had sent to the mines to be sold by a friend whom he wished to help, and who proved a false friend, showing his gratitude by running away with the herd;) he was in debt, and had but three hundred ewes to commence breeding with. But his judgment was clear, his will indomitable, and his faith unshaken, for he had thought out the sheep problem on the plains of Alviso, and knew success with him was only a question of time. He passed leisurely up the coast, driving his little band before him. through San Bernardino, Los Angeles and Santa Barbara, resting here on the splendid Dos Pueblos lands, where seventeen years later he made his present princely home; then on through the Gaviota Pass and this Point Concepcion country, through San Luis Obispo, "the cow county," into Monterey. Here he halted and commenced his career as a California grazier; and from the small beginning then made he has built up by his own efforts, and the aid of partners whom he subsequently associated with him in his operations, a business which represents millions of dollars, the ownership of thousands of sheep-eighty thousand at one time-and over one hundred and fifty

## thousand acres of land in one place.

WHAT TWELVE YEARS PRODUCED. What next follows relates more especially to a period of about a dozen years in the later career of Col. Hollister and his present partners, the Dibblee Brothers, joint owners of these Point Concepcion ranchos, of which noted group the Rancho San Julian is headquarters, and the largest and finest of them all. My facts are procured from headquarters.

In 1862 Col. Hollister and his brother Hubbard formed a partnership in the sheep business with Albert and Thomas B Dibblee, (who had been successful wool-growers in Los An geles county,) and in 1863 the joint partners bought for \$60,000 the great Lompoc rancho, one of the Point Concepcion group, a Spanish grant which Co!. Hollister had long been carrying in his unerring grazier's eye. It lies seven miles along the ocean coast, extends inland twelve miles to and beyond the river Santa Ypez or La Purisima, and contains nearly nine and ahalf leagues of land, or 42,085 acres. They stocked it with ten thousand head of sheep, mostly grade Merinos, and commenced operations in breeding and wool-growing under the able supervision of the managing partner,

Mr. Thomas B. Dibblee. Passing over details, the actual results achieved since then may be summarized briefly. The flocks thrived and multiplied rapidly, ranging far afield over the beautiful grass covered valleys and hills of the Lompoc until more pasturage was required to carry their increase. To supply this more land was bought from time to time, as needed, and paid for out of the profits of the business, which alone were sufficient to enable the proprietors, after paying all expenses, (including the cost of valuable improvements and some \$15,000 spent in perfecting titles, for legal services, surveyor's fees, &c.,) to buy grant after grant adjacent to the Lompoc, until in 1874 their lauded possessions in this locality covered seven entire ranchos and part of another; the whole embracing a grand aggregate area of 140,000 acres, with an ocean frontage of twenty miles or more, and extending far inland-a vast sheep walk, a pastoral

principality within itself. Meantime their flocks had so increased in numbers, and their lands so enhanced in value by the mutual progress of settlement and the development of the country, that the entire property was in 1874 worth probably a million and ahalf of Jollars-all the result of \$60,000 originally invested and 10,000 sheep skillfully handled. The Lompoc and Mision Vieja ranchos, containing less than one third of the whole area, were sold last fall for half a million dollars, and surrendered to subdivision, settle ment and agriculture. The flocks were retired member has been \$2.94. The importance of therefrom and mainly concentrated on the San

Hollister and Dibblees made a special purchase of three hundred pure Spanish-merino ewes, and in 1864added one hundred more to the numher. These sheep were placed on the Lompoc, marked with a distinctive mark, and with their increase have ever since been herded apart from the grade flocks to preserve their putity and enable their owners to know with certainty the actual increase. Result in 1875, twelve years later: The lambing brands of this breed now on Rancho San Julian number, by actual count, 11,193. The count was made and entered upon the books by the major domo about two

weeks ago. There are, besides, 3,000 yearling ewes of the same breed on the rancho, making the whole number of pure merino ewes descended from the parent band, and still living, 14.193. An equal number of males raised during the same period (part of which are on hand, many thousands having been sold.) swells the aggregate increase to twenty eight thousand-all from four hundred ewes in about twelve years.

These are results achieved, not predictions or estimates; not "counting chickens before they are hatched" nor lambs before they were born. Mr. Dibblee tells me that the utmost care has always been taken to keep the pure stock apart from the grade, and to give to each and every animal its own proper distinctive ear-mark; so that the above result is one not to be doubted The designation of "Merino" means pure Me rino only; all grades are called stock sheep. Their merinos now outnumber their stock sheep. They have here over 19,000 head of grown Merinos-probably the largest single flock of this breed in all California, with her ten millions of sheep.

### INCREASE AND MANAGEMENT.

Their Merino lambing bands will be increased by 9,000 lambs this month; they are now dropping at the rate of several hundred a day. It is a pretty sight. The stock lambs of 1875 will number 7,000 or 8,000. The whole increase will be 16,000-about eighty per cent.-swelling the aggregate to 50,000 head.

Mr. Dibblee, as manager, has made it a rule to never sell a Merino ewe. His sales of ewes for breeding purposes have almost invariably been from among the stock bands. Both Meripo and stock wethers are sold for mutton. By steadily pursuing this sagacious policy of sparing the Merino ewes, he has made it possible for the small number which they commenced with in 1862 to show a living iccrease of nearly twenty thousand, which will be increased to nearly thirty thousand by the first of March.

None but pure Merino rams are used in any of the flocks. These rams are of superior strains of blood, many of them having been selected in the East and Canada and brought around the Horn. Several hundred are sold yearly to neighboring breeders, who come to the rancho and select them. The owners reserve the right of first choice, and Mr. Dibblee's practiced eye picks out six or seven hundred for home use before the selling begins. A band of 900 is now kept in the Salsipudes canon. I have just seen them; they are magnificent-looking fellows. The practical result of the skill and care in breeding here, exhibited during the last twelve years, has been to give to all these flocks superior strains of blood. All, whether of pure Merino or mixed blood, are certainly very fine. The stock sheep are highbred, being from fifteen sixteenths up to sixty-three sixty-fourths pure. They look as well, and clip as much wool, as the Merinos, and, without marks, the two classes could not be told apart even by an expert. The grade wool brings as much in market as the rest.

Hollister and the Dibblees is extraordinary for not to relinquish the position if elected to it, such large flocks. The average of the spring even though the people should call him to fill clip last year was a little over seven pounds and some other of as great, or even greater imtwo-thirds (7.68 exact). The wool sells in San | portance. Any man who would annunciate such Francisco at an average price in gold of 25 a doctrine was wholly unacquainted with the cents for spring and 15 cents for fall, year in very principles of our form of government. He and year out. This is for "wool in the dirt." The price for spring is equivalent to about 50 cents a pound (greenbacks) for scoured wool in New York, the shrinkage in Merico wool being notoriously heavy-over forty per cent. Fall wool is that clipped from the lambs of the previous February-seven months old. I believe the average fall clip is about four pounds | thought it all wrong to allow a man to accept a

## THE CLIP AND ITS VALUE.

Both wool and sheep are cash. Mutton weathers sell on the rancho to San Francisco butchers for \$3, \$3 25 and \$3.50 per head. Mr. Dibblee informs me that the price has not been less than \$3 for years. Ewes sell for \$3.25 and \$3,50 per head; rams for \$10 per head. All these values are gold.

The following summary of actual money yield of these ranchos during the last three years is also made up from the firm's books:

In 1872 their wool clip was 250,000 lbs., and brought, at 15 cents for fall and 40 cents for spring, (an exceptionally high price,) \$84,375. Their sales of sheep reached 11,016 head; they brought \$40,260. The aggregate sales amounted to \$124,635. In 1873 the wool clip was 338, 131 pounds; it brought \$74,879. About 14,-500 head of sheep were sold, realizing \$48.408. The aggregate sales amounted to \$123,287. In 1874 the clip was 316 297 pounds. The spring clip, 254,137 pounds, was sold at 24 cents, yielding \$60,992. The fall clip was 62,160 pounds. The account sales of this clip has not yet been received at the rancho from San Francisco; but at the usual price of 15 cents it will bring \$9,324. About 16,500 head of sheep have been sold, realizing \$53,933. The entire sales of wool and sheep for 1874 will thus reach \$124 249. (It should be stated here that the sheep sales last year were exceptionally large. Upon the sale of the Lompec rancho and the retirement of the flock therefrom, an extra sale of 3,000 sheep was made, realizing \$10,000

more than in ordinary years. Such is the hard money response of the golden hoof when called upon for cash results. These results have been realized at a total expense, including the cost of improvements and betterments, of from \$30,000 to \$35,000. They have not been achieved without effort.

The sheep are kept in bands of from 1,500 to 2,000 each. except at lambing time, when the ewe-flocks are subdivided into bands of about 750 each, greater care being then exercised in order to save the lambs. Each band is in charge of one herder, who is furnished with a horse, but provides his own blanket. He is supplied with "grub" for himself and "pison" for the pestiferous coyotes, which have to be watched vigilantly lest they prey upon the flocks. Strychoine is used for poisoning by charging pieces of meat with it, or the carcases of sheep or lambs that happen to iie or get killed. These baits are placed in the way of the unsuspecting wolves; and when strychnine gets into the stomach of the coyote it makes him writhe in agony and even wish he were dead. He forthwith turns from his mutton, takes to the hills, and is seen no more. The rams are herded by themselves, except during about six weeks of each year, from and after the 1st of September, when they are urned into the ewe bands. Every sheep on the ranche is "soused" once

year in a decoction of tobacco juice and corrosive sublimate, to keep down the scab. This is as much a part of the care of them as shearing or hearding; it is to be omitted on no account. The scab and the coyotes are the only considerable drawbacks to the raising of sheep in Southern California. Both are kept under control in well regulated establishments like this by the means described, so that the per ct. of mortality is low, even in large flocks, where the master cannot give that careful personal supervision which is possible in smaller ventures.

At shearing time a lively scene is presented.

have myself taken from the books: In 1862 commercial men, whose business it is to attend to the wool sales and transact all other busi nyss of the firm there. About thirty men and horses are regularly employed on the rancho. with an extra force of men at lambing and shearing times. Sixty head of fine short horn cattle are kept for the use of the establishment. A competent major domo, or superietendent, Mr. Geo. H. Long, has charge of the entire operations, under the general direction of the manager. Mr. Long has been with his present employers many years, and is a tried and trusted lieutenant.

#### County Radicals.

The colored Radicals of Jefferson Township met last night for the purpose of nominating delegates to a Convention to nominate candi. dates for County Clerk, Commonwealth's Attorney, Commissioner of the Revenue and County Treasurer.

At 9:15 o'clock the meeting was called to order by Wm. A. Rowe, a member of the County Executive Committee, who stated the object of the meeting, and said the first business in order was the election of a President. John Pendleton was elected President and Calvin H. Richardson, Secretary.

The President was introduced to the voters by Wm. A. Rowe. He thanked them for the honor conferred, in a few sentences, and then stated the object of the meeting to be for the purpose of nominating Township officers and electing delegates to the County Convention. The following persons were then put in nom-

ination for Township officers, to be voted for on the 27th inst.: Wm. A. Rowe, Supervisor. John Pendleton, Geo. Franklin and Andrew Jenkins, Justices of the Peace; Harrison Gold. man, for Constable. Benjamin Pollard and Ephrian Elim were put in nomination for Overseer of the Poor.

was declared the choice of the voters for the Then came the election of five delegates to the County Convention, which is to meet on

Pollard receiving 10 votes, Elim none, Pollard

the 24th inst. Wm. A. Rowe was in favor of the President appointing the delegates.

On motion, it was resolved that they be elected from the floor. The following named persons were elected:

Wm. A. Rowe, Harrison Goldman, George Franklin, C. H. Richardson and John R. The following persons were elected a Dis-

trict Committee for the ensuing year: -Pollard, John Pendleton and Wm. A. Rowe. Rowe said that as they had finished business

apparently, he would offer a resolution, the purport of which was to prevent any person who might accept a nomination for a county office this spring from becoming a candidate for any other office within the gift of the people pext fall. J. B. Syphax asked, as he was not a voter

of that Township, to be heard a moment in reference to the resolution; which request was granted. He said that it had never been his custom to attempt to dictate the policy of any meeting, but when resolutions like those which the gentleman had offered came before any meeting composed of the voters of Alexandria county, he claimed the right to be heard. With him such resolutions were of great significance. because he could trace their origin to a conversation which he had had with Rowe in reference to the various offices to be filled, because it was understood that some of his friends were pressing his claims for the Commissioner of Reve-The average clip of these splendid sheep of | nue, and Rowe wanted him to pledge himself was opposed to the resolution because it would prevent the people from often selecting their best men, and he intended to "fight it out on that line.

Wm. A. Rowe in reply to Syphax, said that he was sorry Syphax was the only man in the county who was affected by the resolution. He nomination for any position elective by the people, and then resign whenever he felt like being elected to some other position; it was too much to allow a judge to appoint men to these positions, thereby keeping up a constant change of officers, and hazarding the reputation of this county by a set of incompetent

Mr. Roach wanted to know if a man should accept a nomination for any position in good faith, and it afterwards turned out that he could not qualify, would that be a bar to his accepting any other position during the term for which he was elected.

Rowe said that it was the intention of the people to elect men to these positions who can

The vote on the resolutions was then taken and they were lost. R. L. Mitchell, of this city, was then in-

vited to address the voters, as he had been mentioned in concetion with one of the county offices. He came forward and said-after thanking them for their courtesy-that he had no claims upon the voters in the county, if they had a man in the county who wanted the position, but he thought when they came to the city to select men that they should divide at

## The meeting then adjourned.

DEATH OF AN OLD DEFENDER. - We record with regret the death of Owen Carroll, e-qat his residence near Beltsville, in this country on the 11th iostant. Mr. Carrolt was a native of Ireland, but for the past sixty three years has been a resident of this county, and at the time of his death was in the 90th year of his age. During the war of 1812, he had charge of the Powder Mills near Bladensburg, and took an active part in the events of that period. - Marlboro' Md., Gazecte.

The trial of Mr. Moore's petition against the validity of the election of the late Jno. Mitches in Tipperary, began at Clearwell yesterday. The petitioner claims the seat on the ground be was the legal candidate and legally elected. his opponent being ineligible from the first. because he had transferred his allegiance from the Queen of England to the Government of the United States.

Twenty-one of the "Committee of Thirty yesterday sent their resignations to the French National Assembly. The President announced that elections would be held to fill the vacatcies thus created.

## OFFICIAL.

An Act supplemental to "An Act to reduce the Police Force."

Be it enacted by the City Council, That the police force be and is hereby reduced to seventeen men, two officers and fifteen policement and the salary of s id fifteen policemen shall be forty-five dollars (\$45), such per month. forty-five dollars (\$45) each per month.

Sec. 2. This Act shall be in force on and so ter the first day of July, 1875, and all acts parts of acts in conflict are hereby repealed. Passed Common Council May 11, 1879.

GEORGE R. SHINN. President

Passed Board of Aldermen May 18, 1875. SAMUEL H. JANNEY, President Approved May 19, 1875 K. KEMPER, Mayor.

Teste: Harold Snowden, Clerk Com. Com. MOTHS! MOTHS!—We have on hand a large stock of what is believed to be the best and cheapest preventive for Moths. F.

my 10 E. S. LEADBEATER & BRO.